



## **I- Comprehension :** **Watch the video**

1°) Who are the characters you can see?

*Pay attention to the names that appear*

Match the name and the portrait

- a) He becomes the most powerful king of his time
- b) the greatest knight in the world devoted to Guinevere throughout his life
- c) The magician who helps King Arthur
- d) Arthur's wife and Launcelot's lover
- e) Launcelot's son and the knight who achieves the Grail Quest.

3°) Listen again and complete

For \_\_\_\_\_ historians believed that the tale of King Arthur and his Knights was only a \_\_\_\_\_ but the \_\_\_\_\_ was based on a \_\_\_\_\_ who lived 1,600 years ago

"My \_\_\_\_\_ told me great tales of you, fairytales, people so brave so selfless that they cannot be real : Arthur and his \_\_\_\_\_"

"My duty is to my men"

"We're gonna slaughter your people"

"Mark my \_\_\_\_\_ ; it will be the last thing you see on this earth"

"My \_\_\_\_\_ should be with you wherever you go able to fly without wings on this day if this be our destiny"

#### 4°) Answer the questions

1. Which is true?
2. Two adjectives that describe Arthur's knights  
They're \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who has great powers?

### **Legendary King Arthur or Historical King Arthur?**

The Legendary King Arthur really begins with Geoffrey of Monmouth in his book *The History of the Kings of Britain* written in the 12th century. Though Arthur is mentioned in earlier documents that date back as early as the 9th century, Geoffrey was the first to describe Arthur and his origin in much detail, outlining Arthur's birth in Tintagel, his relationship with the likes of Merlin and Guinevere, his conquest of the British Isles and ultimately his death at the hands of his nephew Mordred.

But if it's the Historical Arthur that we're after, we must consider what modern archaeologists and historians have to say about Geoffrey's version of King Arthur, many of whom condemn the version that Geoffrey portrays and agree that for the most part he probably created Arthur out of a conglomeration of Dark Age figures and kings, thus the reason why Arthur seems more like a tyrant in *the History of the Kings of Britain* and less like the hero that he would be portrayed in modern literature.

#### 4°) Read the document

1. When was Arthur mentioned for the first time in history?
2. According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, where was King Arthur born?
3. Who killed him?
4. Historians agree with Geoffrey's version of Arthur
5. For most historians, King Arthur is a composite of different kings
6. In Geoffrey's book he is not a hero but a tyrant
7. In modern literature he is a \_\_\_\_\_